

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/018,838

Applicant(s)

KATO ET AL.

Examiner

DAQUAN ZHAO

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/28/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-13,24-28 and 31-33.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/26/2008
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date: 8/18/2008; 12/19/2001.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas F. Presson on 8/26/2008.

Claim 13. A recording medium storing executable program, when executed, causing a computer to process information, the executable program comprising:

a step of generating ClipMark formed by a mark specifying a characteristic picture extracted from an input AV stream, as management information for supervising the AV stream, and of generating PlayListMark, formed by marks pointing to a picture optionally specified by a user, from a reproduction domain corresponding to a PlayList defining the combination of preset domains in said AV stream; and

a step of recording said ClipMark and PlayListMark as respective independent tables with a predetermined format on a recording medium,

wherein the PlayList comprises a Real PlayList and a Virtual PlayList, the Real PlayList co-owning a stream portion referenced by the Real PlayList,

the Virtual PlayList not co- owning a stream portion referenced by the Virtual PlayList,

wherein the PlayList comprises a plurality of playback domains represented by a pair of an IN-point and an OUT-point on a time axis, and

wherein the mark stored in the ClipMark of the Clip referenced by the PlayList is capable of being a reference when the PlayList is reproduced.

Claim 28. A **recording medium** storing an executable program, when executed, causing a computer to produce data from a recording medium having recorded thereon an AV stream, ClipMark formed by a mark pointing to a characteristic picture extracted from said AV stream, and PlayListMark, formed by a mark pointing to a picture optionally specified by a user, from a reproduction domain corresponding to a PlayList defining the combination of preset domains in said AV stream, said executable program comprising:

a reproducing step of reproducing data from said recording medium;
and

a controlling step of acquiring a recording position corresponding to said mark stated in the ClipMark or PlayListMark reproduced and for controlling said reproducing means responsive to the acquired recording position,

wherein the PlayList comprises a Real PlayList and a Virtual PlayList, the Real PlayList co-owning a stream portion referenced by the Real Playlist, the Virtual PlayList not co-owning a stream portion referenced by the Virtual PlayList,

wherein the PlayList comprises a plurality of playback domains represented by a pair of an IN-point and an OUT-point on a time axis, and

wherein the mark stored in the ClipMark of the Clip referenced by the PlayList is capable of being a reference when the PlayList is reproduced.

Claim 32. The information processing apparatus according to **claim**
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wherein said mark of the ClipMark and said mark of the PlayListMark are represented by a first address of a relative source packet corresponding to an entry point of said AV stream and by a second address of an offset from said first address, respectively.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

For claims 1, 12, 13, 25, 27 and 28, there's no teaching or suggestion in the prior art for **"the PlayList comprises a Real PlayList and a Virtual PlayList, the Real PlayList co-owning a stream portion referenced by the Real Playlist, the Virtual PlayList not co-owning a stream portion referenced by the Virtual PlayList,"**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daquan Zhao whose telephone number is (571) 270-1119. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Fri. 7:30 -5, alt Fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tran Thai Q, can be reached on (571)272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Daquan Zhao/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621
Daquan Zhao

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621